

# The Boomer

Vol. 50, No. 9

459th Air Refueling Wing, U.S. Air Force Reserve, Andrews Air Force Base, Md.

September 2005

in shop vs. FLiGhTLine  
Working together for same goal

See story, pg. 6-8



# The Boomer

Vol. 50 No. 9

**Commander, 459 ARW**  
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## COMMENTARY

# KC-135R maintainers providing safe, mission capable aircraft, reliable every time

## Commander's Corner

**Lt. Col. David Post**  
**459th Maintenance Group**  
**Commander**



**W**hen I was asked to write a commentary for the Boomer, I responded with a definite "Yes!"

Then came the difficult part, what shall I write about? Do I comment on the upcoming AEF? Do I discuss how well we pulled together for the Initial Response Inspection and achieved EXCELLENCE? Do I converse about the first-rate people we have in the 459th and how I am proud to be a member of this great organization? Or, do I discuss my observations since I have been here? So many thoughts, but so little space.

Since this is my first of what I hope to be many commentaries, I will begin with what I know best, maintenance, and save those other discussions for another time. In fact, when I discuss maintenance, it will be very difficult to not touch other areas of the 459th, since the pride, flair, and compassion flow throughout the wing and not just maintenance. As is always true, it takes a team to take, "Fuel to the Fight ... Anytime, Anywhere!"

It is hard to believe that six months ago I was at Headquarters Air Force Reserve Command overseeing, as part of my duties, the plan for the KC-135s throughout AFRC. It seems like only yesterday that the first KC-135R arrived at Andrews, but in reality it has been almost two years, and just six months later, the last of our eight aircraft arrived.

Stratotankers arrived from our sister organizations at March Air Force Base, Seymour Johnson AFB, and Grissom AFB, but it was no time at all we made them our own. Many of you remember that not long ago we were providing C-141s for America's strategic airlift requirements, but now everything has changed. A "new" aircraft, at least, new to us. A new mission, the only one of its kind in the D.C. area. Expertise in our jobs, we no longer have a wealth of knowledge that we once enjoyed. But this being said, what has not changed? The people, the skills, the

tools, time, and attitude.

We here in maintenance, like other parts of this great wing, have a calling, a calling to serve this great nation. Maintainers are called to fix, launch, and recover aircraft. We do this by being smart. SMART is not just intelligence, but it is what we are tasked to provide: Safe, Mission capable Aircraft, Reliable every Time. We have to. There are no room for errors in maintenance. Errors mean loss of life or aircraft. Neither of which is acceptable. We owe it to those that fly and utilize our aircraft to return safely to their homes each and every time.

In the short time that I have been here, I have observed some of the finest maintenance personnel, and those that support them, that I have ever had the pleasure to work with. These professionals have latched on to this "new" forty-year-old aircraft, revitalized them, applied their skills and transformed them into a symbol of pride and ownership in ways that I have never seen before. Evidence of this is seen every time someone boards our aircraft. They are amazed at how these aircraft can look and perform like they just came off the showroom floor. This same pride runs through each and every maintainer.

As we continue our transitional journey and our maturity of aircraft maintenance skills grows, we must continue to be proactive and focus on the basics. The basics of safety; following and using technical data each and every time; ensuring that we are taking and giving adequate time to perform our tasks right the first time; enforcing accountability for each and every action; and finally, documenting the tasks we perform, whether this be aircraft forms or training records. Without proper documentation you cannot prove that the task or event was accomplished. All these things combined with common sense, will allow us to enjoy the success we have experienced in the past and will cherish in the future.

I look forward to taking on the challenges we will face as we continue to the next level of our journey to become the KC-135R unit of choice by the Air Force Reserve Command, Air Mobility Command, and the United States Transportation Command providing "Fuel to the Fight ... Anytime, Anywhere!"

## Chaplain's Corner

Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Greg Havrilak  
Wing Chaplain

# Starting *fresh*

**E**ven before the “back-to-school” signs pop up at stores in your local strip mall, young folks are already counting the free days remaining before the start of school. Remember from your youth the fear and trepidation you experienced when the month of August was nearing its end, as your mom was out buying you new clothes for school. “Oh no! School’s about to begin,” you realized finally, “If only I had a few more days off.”

As we got older, however, the coming of autumn took on new meaning. It became the season of colorful landscapes, road trips to view the foliage and pick apples, football games, a return to college campuses and for some, empty nests. Many folks began new jobs in the fall.

The coming of autumn presents opportunities for a fresh start, a new beginning: at home, at work, at school, and with God. It’s ironic that, in one sense, as nature begins to close down to prepare for a long and cold winter, most people (except the beach crowd)

get geared-up for a new season.

When I lived in New York, autumn signaled a new season on Broadway and the opera. In the fall, Congress, the Supreme Court and the United Nations open their new sessions; and, to a lesser extent, the new television season begins. In the military, autumn ushers in a new fiscal year that provides new funding for long-awaited projects, programs, construction and hiring.

A few weeks ago, my wife Anita and I were driving back home from the beach and decided to detour through Annapolis since neither of us had seen the Naval Academy. As we drove about the magnificent campus we watched in admiration as newly-arrived, young and fit naval midshipmen scurried about preparing for the advent of classes. For me, it was an inspiration to see such newness of life and opportunity – a scene that was repeated many times, I am sure, at Colorado Springs and West Point, or at any university campus for that matter. For these young students, it is a fresh start to a new

career, a new and exciting life.

When our kids go back to school and the leaves begin to change color, the time is ripe for adults to seize the opportunity for a fresh start as well. We need to lay aside past disappointment and failure, pick ourselves up and begin anew. Do you have any unfinished items on your “to-do” list? Is there an abandoned project in your garage?

There is no time limit to starting anew. A “fresh start” means just that, a new beginning. You can experience new beginnings in relationships, with your spouse, supervisor, co-workers and friends. You can experience a new beginning with God, by opening your heart and mind to the divine presence in your life.

Now that we have completed the Initial Response Inspection with such phenomenal success, we might take advantage of this wonderful opportunity to begin anew. So before the leaves change color, let us make a firm resolve this minute to start fresh, in all that we do as servants of God and country.

## HURRICANE KATRINA Relief efforts

**Local  
opportunities  
to assist  
Hurricane  
Katrina  
victims  
relocating to  
our area:**

In an effort to help Hurricane Katrina victims in the local area, donations are being collected for toiletries, clothing, toys, phone cards, bedding (pillows, sheets, blankets), etc. Donations may be brought to the wing commander’s secretary’s office (Lynn Redmond); Chaplain Gregory Havrilak’s office or the family support office. Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Gregory Havrilak (7-5654) and Master Sgt. Jennifer Hutcherson (7-7048) will distribute the donations and “Shoeboxes for Kids of Katrina” on an on-going basis to those in need including evacuated families now housed at the D.C. Armory.

More than 400 Veterans (average age 77) from the Gulfport Armed Forces Retirement Home (AFRH) have relocated to the DC AFRH located at 3700 N. Capital Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20011. The Veterans would enjoy the pleasure of our company! Please phone 1-800-422-9988 to coordinate the visit. Monetary donations can be made directly the Red Cross and Salvation Army at [www.redcross.org](http://www.redcross.org) and [www.salvationarmyusa.org](http://www.salvationarmyusa.org).

## On the cover



**(Left) Staff Sgt. Harold Poore, jet engine mechanic, 459 MXS, installs fuel nozzles on a KC-135 engine during a 1500 hour inspection. (Right) Tech. Sgt. Scott Salovich, crew chief, 459 AMXS, operated the M32-86 external power unit to prepare for a preflight inspection. (Photos by Master Sgt. Shayne Sewell and Capt. Patrick Maloney).**





*(Left to right) Staff Sgt. Shawn O'Rourke, Staff Sgt. John Stevenson, and Tech. Sgt. Brian Sanforth, all from 459 MXS, pose in front of the KC-135 model they built from scrap material. The model will be used as a trophy for future competitions in the 459th Maintenance Group. The model made of scrap material is 31 inches long and almost 30 inches from wingtip to wingtip. (Photo by Master Sgt. Shayne Sewell).*



## Scrap metal brings KC-135 to life

By 1st Lt. Tim Smith  
Wing Public Affairs

Out of scrap metal meant for the real deal, four members of the 459th's structural maintenance shop created a miniature replica of the wing's KC-135 aircraft.

Staff Sgt. Shawn O'Rourke, 459th Maintenance Squadron, structural maintenance shop, came up with the idea when they discovered that a trophy was needed for the wing's 2004 Family Day Picnic.

"We were actually making a cup," said Staff Sgt. John Stevenson, structural maintenance shop. "Then O'Rourke came up with the idea of making the plane."

Sergeant O'Rourke said the squadrons were expected to compete against each other in sports, and the trophy would go to the winner. "It's supposed to be carried for the year to be bragging rights," said Stevenson. "And as the tradition carries on, there will be a plate for each year."

Lt. Col. David Post, maintenance group commander, said he likes the trophy idea, and it may be used as the top prize for competitions in the future within the maintenance group.

They want to place a small metal plate on the base of the plane's stand that will signify that year's winner. However, there hasn't been an opportunity for that to happen yet, but they are patiently waiting for the chance for a squadron to proudly claim it ... for a year.

The foursome used tubing, flares, sheet metal, and more to bring the little KC-135 to life. "Everything on that plane was scrap material that was headed for the recycling center," said Sergeant O'Rourke.

It's a little over 31 inches long and it's almost 30 inches from wingtip to wingtip. It took them somewhere between 12 to 15 hours to complete, working just a few hours each day. They used a technical order as a guide, and they just scaled down the dimensions.

They say it's a favored piece among the members of the maintenance squadron, where it currently resides.

"The basic point is to add a little camaraderie among the squadrons," said Tech. Sgt. Brian Stanforth, structural shop. "Since it's a nice trophy they can say they took it back from us or they took it away from them." Certainly, it's all in the spirit of friendly competition.

Of course creating the mini Stratotanker was a matter of pride not only for the sake of the maintenance group, but also for the structural team itself. They like to build things ... even trophies. "We kind of don't like to buy anything, to tell you the truth," said Sergeant Stevenson. "We do it all in house." "It means more when we can make it ourselves," said Sergeant O'Rourke.

The little tanker doesn't have a name, but its tail number is 0459. Master Sgt. Ed Petrucci, a sheet metal technician, was also on the team.

# Motorcycle safety is concern for everyone

By Master Sgt. Shayne Sewell  
Wing Public Affairs

The 89th Airlift Wing has experienced two lost lives and one serious injury due to motorcycle accidents this summer. Fortunately, the 459th Air Refueling Wing has not experienced any accidents or deaths this summer. The Air Force however, has lost nine Airmen to motorcycle-related accidents so far this year.

To ensure a safe experience for motorcycle riders and passengers, motorcycle safety must be adhered to, emphasized Col. Linda Thomas, 89th Mission Support Group commander. "The death of two Airmen from the 89th Mission Support Group over the last few months due to motorcycle accidents was a tragic reminder of how dangerous riding motorcycles can be," said Colonel Thomas.

The first biker awareness briefing on Andrews Air Force Base took place last month in the base theater. Tech. Sgt. Brian McLeod, 89th Logistics Readiness Squadron reminded the audience of about 35 that a motorcycle safety class is mandatory. "Before operation of any motorcycle, personnel shall successfully complete an approved rider or operator safety course. This training requirement excludes those operat-

ing motorcycles with attached sidecars and three-wheel motorcycles," references DoDI 6055.4 regulation. There are two courses available. One for new motorcyclists and those who haven't operated one in 10 to 30 years and an experienced rider course for those who have ridden for three years or 3,000 miles.

Sergeant McLeod also reviewed the proper protective equipment to be worn on and off base. "Motorcyclists must wear their gear on and off base, on and off duty, 24 hours a day, seven days a week," he said. (The photo to the right outlines the proper gear to be worn).

Soon, security personnel at the gates may be turning away motorcycles if the proper protective gear is not worn.

Proper gear includes, a Department of Transportation, (SNELL or ANCI) certified helmet; full-fin-

ger gloves or mittens; long-sleeve shirt or jacket in a contrasting color to the pants, and something reflective for night riding, preferably a vest that snaps in front and not the sides as it can flip up. Over-the-ankle footwear is strongly encouraged or at the least a sturdy shoe. Goggles, sunglasses and windshields must be impact and shatter resistant. "Let's use common sense," said Colonel Thomas. "It's about being safe."

A motorcycle club will soon be formed on Andrews AFB for active duty, reservists, guardsmen and civilian employees.



## ART Spotlight

**Job Title:**  
Asst. Manager, Personnel  
Systems, 459th Military  
Personnel Flight

**Duties:**  
Demonstrates use of Military  
Personnel Systems, PC-III, and  
MILPDS. Works the deployment  
control center for exercises, and  
provides backup for the readiness  
section.

**Length of employment with  
the 459th ARW:** 26 years



Ms. Anna P. Ring

**Personal Hobbies:**  
Creative scrapbooking with  
photos of places and  
grandchildren; sewing; and  
playing horseshoes.

**What would your dream job be?**  
To make lots of money so when I  
retire in three years I can sit  
back and not have to worry  
about everyday living.

**If someone had to use one  
word to describe you what  
would it be?** Unique



# Care and feeding of “ambassadors”

Story and photos by Capt. Patrick Maloney  
*Wing Public Affairs*

The mission of the 459th Air Refueling Wing is to “provide strategic, long-range aerial refueling support to the active duty Air Force.” This is a small sentence, but making that mission happen is a very big job.

To keep the mission on track, two units of the 459 ARW do whatever it takes to keep our aircraft safe and ready. They are the 459th Maintenance Squadron and the 459 Aircraft Maintenance Squadron.

To an outsider like me, the names of the squadrons could be confusing. After all, both units perform maintenance, and both units work on aircraft. So, one may ask, “Why the different names? What’s the difference?” To find that out, I had to get out there and see the men and women of these units in action.

My first stop was to the 459 MXS where I was graciously met by Senior Master Sgt. Gary Mauger, 459 MXS accessories flight chief. The accessories flight is one of the four flights that make up the MXS. The oth-

ers are the aerospace ground equipment, fabrication, maintenance, and propulsion flights. A total of 102 Airmen are assigned to the 459 MXS.

These flights are responsible for performing what Sergeant Mauger described as “preventative maintenance.” This preventative, or heavy maintenance, is complete and exceptionally thorough. Through a process called isochronal inspection, aircraft are checked from nose to tail and wingtip to wingtip. It is a deep look at the entire aircraft and generally takes 30 days to accomplish.





**(Left photo) Tech. Sgt. Al James, aircraft mechanic, 459 AMXS, drags an exhaust tube from an external power unit to prepare for a preflight inspection. (Right photo) Tech. Sgt. Denise Patterson and Staff Sgt. Troy Wallace, aerospace maintenance craftsmen, 459 MXS, operates a bead breaker machine that removes the air from KC-135 tires which is necessary prior to replacing a tire.**

During the “iso” process, maintainers look for and repair problems in every system, from wheels and tires, to hydraulics and flight controls. The structure of the aircraft is also checked through a process called nondestructive inspection or NDI for short. This is where Master Sgt. Carl Macon comes in.

Sergeant Macon is NCOIC of the 459 MXS nondestructive inspection laboratory. He and his teammates perform nondestructive inspection on aircraft structures, components, and systems. They detect flaws such as cracks, delaminations, and heat damage. To do so, NDI specialists use penetrant, eddy current, magnetic particle, radiographic, optical, and ultrasonic test equipment. This

is done to ensure the structural integrity of the aircraft and its associated systems.

While our KC-135Rs are the NDI lab’s primary patients, they are often asked to perform their services on aircraft belonging to other units and military services. Sergeant Macon has been asked to look into suspected structural problems on Navy aircraft assigned to Andrews as well as “transient” aircraft. “We can work on anything”, Macon said.

He is assisted in his duties by Tech. Sgt. Jacqueline White and Staff Sgt. Itzeth Testa-Salcedo. If the NDI specialists find problems with the aircraft structure, men and women like Senior Airmen Chris Ale and Erick

Wampler are called in to fix it.

If the structural integrity of the aircraft is in question, it is their job, along with their teammates in the AMXS structural repair shop, to remove and replace the panel in question. It’s a tough job that demands precision and both proved their “metal” by performing it flawlessly. A “can-do” attitude is contagious and spreads throughout the 459 Maintenance Group, both in MXS and AMXS. It is much in evidence in the 459 MXS Aero Repair Shop.

Master Sgt. Ed Hrabosky is the NCOIC of this shop, and he has a small staff doing some very big jobs.

*continued on pg. 8*

*continued from pg. 7*

With only 11 people, it takes motivation and high spirits to keep the mission on track, and they have both. The aero repair shop is responsible for the heavy maintenance of flight controls and landing gear, as well as acceptance and isochronal inspections of the aircraft as a whole. They also maintain a large portion of the squadron's bench stock of tools and perform special and periodic inspection of equipment necessary to do their jobs. They are busy!

For instance, Sergeant Hrabosky told me they repaired four wheel and tire assemblies in just one night and that this is a common occurrence. Tires are a big part of the job and at any one time the aero repair shop has 30 main tires in their "fly-away kit" for deployment taskings. They also are responsible for correcting flight control malfunctions and for crash recovery if called upon.

Neither landing gear nor flight controls work without hydraulics. Master Sgt. Jim Gillette and Staff Sgt. David Straughn of the 459 MXS hydraulics shop are responsible for inspecting and maintaining aircraft hydraulic systems and components. According to Sergeant Straughn their biggest job is preventative hydraulic maintenance while the aircraft is in for isochronal inspection. "We are looking for trends and overhauling hydraulic components if needed." He also told me that they are two of only 735 "hydraulic troops" in the entire Air Force. Most of their job is now being done by government contractors.

After talking to these maintainers, I realized I was learning a valuable lesson. It was becoming abundantly clear that success in the air begins with hard work on the ground. It is a team effort all the way around, and a lot of hard, tiring work. When this work is done and the MXS has done their job, it is time to get the aircraft into the air and for the 459 AMXS to take the reins.

As I suspected, I found the professionals of the AMXS embody the same "can-do" spirit and dedication to the mission as their MXS colleagues.

While the MXS is responsible primarily for scheduled maintenance, the AMXS focuses on unscheduled maintenance. The professionals of the 459 AMXS services, inspects, launches and recovers aircraft. Their number one job is aircraft generation.

Air Force instructions define aircraft generation as the, "cumulative effort to launch

and recover aircraft." The 459 AMXS provides safe, reliable aircraft and maintenance in support of global peacetime and combat taskings. So what does this mean here at the unit level where mission statements are transformed from words on paper to aircraft in the air?

It means boots on the ground must be in constant motion to keep birds in the air. According to Master Sgt. Greg Snowden, NCOIC, 459 AMXS support section, the AMXS is constantly at work generating aircraft. "We are responsible for aircraft generation. That includes refueling, pre-flight, and aircraft configuration." These are the



**Tech. Sgt. Jacqueline White and Staff Sgt. Itzeth Salcedo, from the non-destructive inspection lab, search for cracks while conducting an inspection on a KC-135 flap.**

tasks performed by aircraft crew chiefs. All crew chiefs are assigned to the AMXS. One of the most unique tasks KC-135 crew chiefs have is configuring their aircraft to support allied and U.S. Navy aircraft.

To do so, they must attach a drogue to the boom. To refuel, U.S. Navy and U.S. Marine Corps aircraft, as well as those of our NATO allies, a probe is inserted into the basket shaped drogue. It is a much different than the boom system Air Force aircraft use. Without the configuration work of the AMXS, KC-135s could not refuel these aircraft and the overall mission would be seriously impacted.

Another configuration task AMXS performs is preparing our aircraft to perform the aeromedical evacuation mission. To do so, they assist with the loading of aeromedical

pallet systems or AAPS. AAPS is a roll-on, pallet based system that can be set-up in about 20 minutes. It carries up to eight litter patients, or six ambulatory patients belted into passenger seats and allows cargo and refueling aircraft to be quickly converted to highly-responsive aeromedical evacuation assets.

No matter what the mission is, the maintainers of the AMXS prepare the aircraft for flight. This includes pre-flight inspection in addition to refueling and configuration actions. According to Sergeant Snowden, the process usually takes 45 minutes to an hour.

When the aircraft returns, the cycle begins again. AMXS maintainers discuss any maintenance issues that may have arisen during the flight with the aircrew. In describing this procedure, Sergeant Snowden said, "Depending on the write-up, we ensure a representative from the proper shop goes to the debrief." After the debrief, they get to work fixing the problem. "If MXS doesn't have the aircraft in for isochronal inspection or other heavy maintenance, we are responsible for it. So whatever it is, we fix it on the flightline," Snowden added.

However, some problems do arise that require the cooperation of specialists from the MXS. In that case, the maintainers come together as a team, and no one worries about which squadron they call home. The mission remains the same—ensure the safe launch and return of the aircraft and crews performing the wing mission.

In closing, I offer the thoughts of Sergeant Mauger. While he is assigned to the MXS, I know his words are equally applicable to his brothers and sisters in the AMXS. "These airplanes are the ambassadors of our unit. We want people to understand the members of the 459th are not only doing the job, but continuously going above and beyond." All indications are that this message is being received. The 459 ARW is being asked for by name to support everything from fighter deployments, to distinguished visitor and United Services Organization tours.

That recognition is a direct result of the hard work performed by both units. Every time a 459th aircraft takes off, each of our proud maintainers can look to the skies with the pride of knowing "I did that, I made that happen." It is a very tangible indication that the job was done right, and that the wing is fully capable of bringing fuel to the fight, anytime, any where!"



## NEWS BRIEFS

### New SGLI Coverage of \$400,000 starts Sept. 1

**ROBINS AIR FORCE BASE, Ga.**—Four hundred thousand dollars of Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance automatically goes into effect for everyone in the U.S. military Sept. 1.

If people don't want the maximum SGLI coverage, they will have to change it in writing, even if they opted for much less or none in the past. The maximum coverage was \$250,000.

In addition, a new law now requires the services to tell spouses if servicemembers designate a primary beneficiary other than their current lawful spouse, or they turn down or reduce their SGLI coverage.

### DOD Officials announce one-year open enrollment for Survivor Benefit Plan

**WASHINGTON**—Department of Defense officials announced in August that military retirees, who opted out of some or all of their Survivor Benefit Plan coverage, will have another opportunity to elect coverage during a one-year open enrollment period beginning Oct. 1 and running through Sept. 30, 2006.

Upon a retiree's death, the plan provides an annuity of up to 55 percent of the military retired pay. Until recently, the annuity for a surviving spouse age 62 or older was reduced to 35 percent to reflect the availability of Social Security benefits. This reduction will phase out by April 2008, and the full 55 percent benefit will be paid regardless of the spouse's age in accordance with the fis-

cal 2005 National Defense Authorization Act.

Current nonparticipants will be able to elect any coverage they could have elected previously upon retiring from active service or upon receiving notification of eligibility for Reserve retired pay at age 60.

If they have a reduced election, they may increase their coverage. A participant with child-only coverage may add a spouse or former spouse to their coverage, and a person may add child coverage to spouse or former spouse coverage.

To make an open enrollment election, a retiree can complete and submit a DD Form 2656-9, "Survivor Benefit Plan and Reserve Component Survivor Benefit Plan Open Enrollment Election." The form is available electronically at [www.dtic.mil/whs/directives/infomgt/forms/eforms/dd2656-9.pdf](http://www.dtic.mil/whs/directives/infomgt/forms/eforms/dd2656-9.pdf).

Retirees can mail the completed form to the address specified on the form. Applicants will be formally notified of their cost and have 30 days from the date of the notice to cancel the election by notifying the Defense Finance and Accounting Service or the reserve component, as applicable, in writing.

### Annual Combined Federal Campaign kicks off

**RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas**—The 2005 to 2006 Combined Federal Campaign began Sept. 1 and runs six consecutive weeks through Dec. 15 for bases within the continental United States.

Last year, federal employees and servicemembers donated a record-setting \$257 million to the campaign. Contributions can be in cash or check.

On average, one in four federal employees or their dependents will benefit from the campaign charities this year, CFC officials said. Donors may designate which charity, or charities, receives their money by filling out a pledge card.

For more information, people can contact their local campaign project officers or visit the CFC Web site at [www.opm.gov/cfc](http://www.opm.gov/cfc).



### AFRC Exceeds Recruiting Goal for Fifth Consecutive Year

**ROBINS AIR FORCE BASE, Ga.**—For the fifth consecutive year, Air Force Reserve Command has exceeded its recruiting goal. This year is the earliest the command has achieved its annual requirement. The recruiting year ends Sept. 30.

AFRC Recruiting Service met its 2005 recruiting year goal Aug. 11 when it accessed its 8,800th recruit, and the numbers continue to climb.

As of Aug. 22, recruiters reported a record 9,048 accessions, moving the command closer to meeting its congressionally mandated end strength of 76,100 by the end of September.

"It's a tough recruiting environment for all the military," said Col. Francis M. Mungavin, AFRC Recruiting Service commander. "We've been able to overcome the challenges and meet the requirements. I'm very happy we were able to make goal and will continue to work toward 100 percent end strength."

## FLIGHTLINE

### Question: What do you consider as one of the most important historical events?



**Senior Airman Falola Bullock-Labaran, 459 AMDS**  
"Signing of Emancipation Proclamation - It was the first step towards civil rights for African-Americans."



**Master Sgt. Robert Douglas III, 459 ASTS**  
"Civil War - It formed the structure of this country and our United States."



**Tech. Sgt. Wilfred Elliott, 459 SFS**  
"September 11, 2001 - It brought more Americans closer together than we ever have been before."



**Tech. Sgt. Darryl Washington, 459 RS**  
"Million Man March - Its purpose of unifying all black men of different parts of the country and of all walks of life."



**Staff Sgt. Christiana Budu, 459 AMDS**  
"Women's Suffrage Rights - It gave women the same rights as men."

## 459th Reunion set for October

**Who:** All those affiliated with the 459th, past and present, are encouraged to attend  
**What:** An evening of dining, special entertainment, dancing and lots of camaraderie

**Guest Speaker:** Lt. Gen. Jimmy Sherrard, Retired Former AFRC Commander

**Where:** Andrews Community Activities Center Ballroom, Bldg 1442, Andrews AFB

**When:** Saturday 22 October, 6 p.m. - 11 p.m.

**Cost:** \$25.00 per person

**Entrée Menu Choices:** Feast of London Broil or Roasted Chicken

**To Purchase your ticket(s):**

**Make check or money order out to:** 459th 2005 Reunion

**Mail payment to:** 459th 2005 Reunion

**% Beth Bruker Walos**

**1209 Harmony Heights Drive**

**Harmony, Pa 16037**

**Last/First Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Rank/Title** \_\_\_\_\_

**Guest(s) Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Street Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City** \_\_\_\_\_ **State** \_\_\_\_\_

**Zip** \_\_\_\_\_

**Home** \_\_\_\_\_

**Work** \_\_\_\_\_

**Cell** \_\_\_\_\_

**Your dinner entrée selection:** Number of London Broil Entrees \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Roasted Chicken Entrees \_\_\_\_\_

**Event POCs:** Beth.BrukerWalos@Youngstown.af.mil or after 5 p.m. EST, call (724) 453-1313  
 Miserablemiller@bellsouth.net Home phone: (321) 799-3903 Cell phone: (321) 795-6407

## 459th ARW Holiday Party

The Family Support Office invites you and your family to attend a holiday celebration Saturday, Dec. 17, from 2 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. There will be food and fun for all ages. There will also be fun activities for the children and a surprise jolly visitor to hand out gifts. Tickets will be available during the October and November UTA's in the Family Support Office, 3755 Rm 130. A \$1 per person donation is requested to help defray cost and to get a good count of folks attending. If you are interested in volunteering to help out with the party, please call the Family Support Office at 240-857-7048.

## PAY DAYS

Run Date	Check Date
September 8	September 16
September 13	September 21
September 15	September 23
September 19	September 27
September 20	September 29
September 21	October 3
September 27	October 5
September 29	October 7

## Military Pay Hours of Operation

Mon. - Fri., 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
 UTA Sat., 7 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.  
 Closed UTA Sun.  
 Office: (240) 857-0314/0315  
**Easy Pay Access: 1-800-755-7413**

## FY 2006 UTA SCHEDULE

Oct. 22-23, Alt 15-16  
 Nov. 19-20, Alt 5-6  
 Dec. 17-18, Alt 3-4  
 Jan. 28-29, Alt 7-8  
 Feb. 25-26, Alt 11-12  
 March 25-25, Alt 11-12  
 April 29-30, Alt 15-16  
 May: Combined in June, Alt 13-14  
 June 8-11, Alt 17-18  
 July 29-30, Alt 15-16  
 Aug. 26-27, Alt 12-13  
 Sep 23-24, Alt 9-10



## Military Heroes; Challenges for Hispanic Veterans in the 21st Century Symposium

In the spirit of hispanic heritage month, the Hispanic War Veterans of America invites all interested to attend the Military Heroes symposium, Oct. 12, 8 a.m. - 2 p.m., at the Army Navy Club, 901 17th street, Washington, D.C. Invited guests include the Honorable John McCain, U.S. Senator, Arizona; the Honorable James Nicholson, Secretary, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs and many others. There will be three morning symposiums; one on the Hispanic War Veterans of America; one on Veterans issues and government business for hispanic veterans and a 5-minute video of "A Color to Honor," an upcoming documentary on hispanics in the military since the Civil War. For more information, contact Staff Sgt. Marisol Salgado, at (240)857-7449.

## First Sergeant Vacancy

The First Sergeant position is available in 459 SFS. If interested, submit a resume reflecting your military and civilian work history, awards, and education. Also include a letter of recommendation from your squadron commander and a letter explaining why you're interested in becoming a first sergeant. Please submit packages to Chief Master Sgt. Patti Hickman, 459 ARW Command Chief by close of business, Sept. 25. The board is projected to convene during the October UTA. For questions, call Chief Hickman at (240)857-2934.

## 459th Military Personnel Flight Notice

**ID card service will be unavailable on Sept. 26 due to system upgrades.**

# Employer Appreciation Day slated for November

## 2005 EMPLOYER APPRECIATION DAY

**Saturday, Nov. 19**

Reservist's name, rank and unit:

Reservist's home address:

Reservist's daytime phone number:

Employer's name, title, phone number and email:

Employer's company/agency name and address:

Complimentary continental breakfast for reservist: YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

Complimentary continental breakfast for employer: YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

Please note: Reservists are invited to the continental breakfast. An opportunity to fly in a KC-135 will be offered to employers. Space is limited, so reservists will be given the chance to fly with their employer if space allows. Flights are not for family members or friends. The flight is pending approval by higher headquarters and is subject to cancellation for weather or operational reasons.

### RETURN THIS FORM TO:

**459th Air Refueling Wing Public Affairs  
3755 Patrick Ave.**

**Andrews AFB, MD 20762-4814**

**Fax: (240) 857-3400**

**Email [timothy.smith9@andrews.af.mil](mailto:timothy.smith9@andrews.af.mil)**

**For more information, call (240) 857-6873**

Air Force reservists assigned to the 459th Air Refueling Wing will have the opportunity to invite their civilian employers to visit the wing and take an orientation flight aboard a KC-135 aircraft.

The event is scheduled for Saturday, Nov. 19, and will begin with a light breakfast and welcome by the 459th ARW commander, Col. Stayce Harris.

Reservists should ask their employers to arrive at the Andrews Air Force Base Visitors Center at the main gate by 7:30 a.m.

Reservists and their employers are invited to a continental breakfast at the 756th Air Refueling Squadron, building 3613. The breakfast, which is free, will begin at 8 a.m. Employers will receive a briefing outlining the mission of the 459 ARW.

A KC-135 orientation flight will be scheduled for later that morning. Reservists will be given the chance to fly with their employer only if space allows.

After the flight, employers will be invited to tour their reservists' work area to see the details of their jobs as Citizen Airmen.

Each reservist will be allowed to bring just one supervisor. To make reservations, fill out the application on this page and return it to the Public Affairs office, located in building 3755, room 213, or fax it to (240) 857-3400.

Employers will receive further information with directions and an itinerary in the mail prior to the Employer Day.

For questions or further information, contact 1st Lt. Tim Smith or Master Sgt. Shayne Sewell at (240) 857-6873.

## Patriot Award

If you would like to nominate your civilian employer for the Patriot Award for supporting your military career, go to [www.esgr.org](http://www.esgr.org). After entering the Employer Support for Guard and Reserve Web site, reservists may select the link for 'military members' and then under 'programs' select, 'Patriot Award.' The form takes only a few minutes. The requestor should receive their employer's certificate within a few weeks.



# Feature Photos



**Master Sgt. Diana Dalto, 459th Civil Engineering Squadron first sergeant, returned Aug 24., from serving 123 days in Iraq in support of the Global War on Terrorism. Her two sisters and cousin came to Baltimore Washington International airport at 2 a.m. to welcome her home along with Lt. Col. Winona Cason, 459 MSG commander, Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Gregory Havrilak, Col. Stayce Harris, 459 ARW commander and Chief Master Sgt. Patti Hickman, 459 ARW command chief. (Photo by Master Sgt. Shayne Sewell).**



**Five of the wing's aerial porters are happy to be back in the United States after serving overseas in the Global War on Terrorism. The five troops from 69 APS returned to Baltimore Washington International airport, Sept. 2. Shown here in between Chief Master Sgt. Patti Hickman, 459 ARW command chief, Lt. Col. Winona Cason, 459 MSG commander and Col. Stayce Harris, 459 ARW commander, are Tech. Sgt. Samuel Wardell, Master Sgt. Gary Snowden, Sr., Tech. Sgt. Sharon Washington, Tech. Sgt. Gabriel Cole, and Tech. Sgt. Timothy Dickens. (Photo by 1st Lt. Tim Smith).**



459TH AIR REFUELING WING  
AIR FORCE RESERVE  
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OFFICIAL BUSINESS

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